



## EMT - BASIC REFRESHER COURSE AVAILABLE

In 1994, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released the *Revised Emergency Medical Technician - Basic* course for the professionals who provide emergency prehospital care to victims of illness and injury across the United States. These include public service First Responders and three levels of Emergency Medical Technician -- Basic, Intermediate, and Paramedic. The foundation curriculum for their prehospital training is the *EMT-Basic: National Standard Curriculum*. Now the companion course, *The EMT-Basic Refresher: National Standard Curriculum* is available.

The *Refresher* course is designed for professionals who were trained to the earlier 1978 version, *EMT-A* course, who need to learn the new skills and subjects to come up to the 1994 standards in the *Emergency Medical Technician - Basic*. The move to an assessment-based curriculum makes the revised materials significantly different from earlier versions. Those trained under the outdated *EMT-A* course will have the opportunity to complete a transition course, this refresher course, or to learn the new skills and subjects by completing a full *EMT-Basic* course.

NHTSA has accepted this *Refresher* course as a bridge from the outdated *EMT-A* to the *EMT-Basic* level, and as a means to maintain the skills of those trained to the *EMT-Basic* level. It evolved from the *EMT-Basic* curriculum and was created by a group of EMS professionals supported by the National Registry of EMTs. Representatives of the major national EMS organizations and a large contingent of outside reviewers participated.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is responsible for developing training

courses that are responsive to the guidelines established by the Highway Safety Act of 1966 as amended. Courses developed to date provide national guidelines for training and, in most cases, have been incorporated into state legislation. Although States modify these programs to meet their individual requirements, all States use the NHTSA National Standard Curricula as a basis for their training. The NHTSA training materials must be accurate, current, and consistent with guidelines and practices accepted nationally.

To date, NHTSA has developed the following **National Standard Curricula** materials in accordance with the *National Emergency Medical Services Education and Practice Blueprint*.

***Revised Emergency Medical Technician - Basic  
Refresher Emergency Medical Technician - Basic  
First Responder  
Refresher First Responder  
Emergency Vehicle Operators Course  
for Ambulances  
Emergency Medical Services Instructor  
Training Program  
Emergency Medical Dispatch***

Following initial distribution to State Emergency Medical Services offices, the **EMT-Basic Refresher: National Standard Curriculum** may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954, or telephone orders may be placed at (202) 512-1800.

For more information, contact David Bryson, Emergency Medical Services Division, NHTSA, NTS-14, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590, email [dbryson@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:dbryson@nhtsa.dot.gov).

U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**National Highway  
Traffic Safety  
Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W. NTS-31  
Washington, DC 20590

**TRAFFIC TECH** is a publication to disseminate information about traffic safety programs, including evaluations, innovative programs, and new publications. Feel free to copy it as you wish. If you would like to receive a copy contact:  
Linda Cosgrove, Ph.D., Editor, Evaluation Staff  
(202) 366-2759, fax (202) 366-7096  
EMAIL: [lcosgrove@nhtsa.dot.gov](mailto:lcosgrove@nhtsa.dot.gov)

**FORWARDING AND ADDRESS  
CORRECTION REQUESTED**